

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1999
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CHAMBERS
FIRST FLOOR, COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
1:30 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Kathy Campbell, Chair
Larry Hudkins, Vice Chair
Bernie Heier
Linda Steinman
Bob Workman

Others Present: Norm Agena, County Assessor
Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Bruce Medcalf, County Clerk
Diane Staab, Deputy County Attorney

- 1) **MINUTES:** Approval of the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting held on Tuesday, September 21, 1999. (A copy of these minutes is on file in the Office of the Lancaster County Clerk.)

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Heier seconded approval of the minutes of the Board of Equalization dated September 21, 1999. On call Campbell, Hudkins, Heier, Workman and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

- 2) **ADDITIONS AND DEDUCTIONS;**

Approval of 5 additions and deductions to the tax assessment rolls per Exhibit "A". (19991949)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval. On call Heier, Campbell, Steinman, Hudkins and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- 3) **APPROVAL OF MOTOR VEHICLE TAX EXEMPTIONS:**

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital
Sesostris Shrine Temple
Villa Marie School

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval of the motor vehicle tax exemptions for Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital and Villa Marie School and a motor vehicle tax exemption for Sesostris Shrine Temple subject to the vehicle being titled and registered to the applicant. On call Steinman, Workman, Heier, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

4) **DENIAL OF A MOTOR VEHICLE TAX EXEMPTION:**

Sisters of Mary Queen of Mercy

MOTION: Steinman moved and Workman seconded to deny a motor vehicle tax exemption for Sisters of Mary Queen of Mercy per Tax Directive 97-2. On call Workman, Hudkins, Campbell, Steinman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

5) **NOTICE OF VALUATION CHANGE FOR OMITTED OR UNDERVALUED PROPERTY:**

Dennis and Malinda Buel (2 notices)
Arlin and Delores Knisley
Laury and Jerry Hostetler

This item will be heard on Tuesday, October 5, 1999 at 2:30 p.m.

6) **ADJOURNMENT:**

By direction of the Chair, the Board of Equalization was adjourned.

Bruce Medcalf
County Clerk

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- 1) **MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on Tuesday, September 21, 1999. (A copy of these minutes is on file in the Office of the Lancaster County Clerk.)**

MOTION: Heier moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting dated September 21, 1999. On call Campbell, Hudkins, Heier, Workman and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

- 2) **CLAIMS: Approval of all claims processed through Tuesday, September 28, 1999.**

MOTION: Workman moved and Hudkins seconded approval. On call Heier, Campbell, Steinman, Hudkins and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- 3) **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- A. The County-City Volunteer of the Month Award was presented to Susie Songster for her services with the Lincoln Fire Department. (19991545)**
- B. The Commissioners Award of Excellence was presented to Vonda Aldred, an employee with the County Attorney's Office, for the month of September. (19991881)**
- C. Energy Options Program with Peoples Natural Gas - William H Lucke (19991962)**

William Lucke, Peoples Natural Gas, stated prior to the Energy Options Program the County was a part of a consortium with Lincoln Public Schools, the University of Nebraska and the City of Lincoln where gas usage was aggregated and bids were received. He explained the consortium members were offered a flat rate and a gas price was locked in. The Energy Options Program offers a discount plan which guarantees a savings of one to five percent. He stated a set discount percent cannot be offered because they purchase the gas for the program on a monthly basis, however, they try to mirror what their purchasers purchase gas for other customers. Lucke said they also purchase firm gas and gas for storage fields. Those purchases are blended so a discount may be offered. He noted that there is a stipulation with the Business Energy Options Program which does not allow any account using over a certain amount of gas in any given day to participate. Lucke stated all accounts covered under the County, with very few exceptions, do qualify.

Lucke stated a customer verification form must be signed which states that the accounts which the County has do wish to participate in the program. He explained the reason for the forms is because Peoples Natural Gas Energy Services is a subsidiary of Peoples Natural Gas which is the marketing group formed to bid on the consortium accounts and now the Energy Options Program. The Purchasing Department with Peoples Natural Gas, a division of UtiliCorp, treats them as a marketer and they need verification of participants.

He added that they would be willing to have a corporate officer sign a letter indicating that they will stand behind the program.

4) **OLD BUSINESS:**

Subordination of two loans to Donna McCoy doing business as Banner House Fabrics, in the amount of \$5,000, to the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Panama, Nebraska. (19991768)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded to reject the subordination of two loans to Donna McCoy doing business as Banner House Fabrics, in the amount of \$5,000, to the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Panama, Nebraska. On call Steinman, Workman, Campbell, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

5) **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. An interlocal agreement with the City of Lincoln reestablishing and revising the Information Services Division, Information Services Policy Committee, Government Access and Information Committee, Criminal Justice and Information System and the Geographic Information System Advisory Committee. The term of the contract is for a one year period, beginning upon date of execution and automatically renewable thereafter. (19991876)

Steinman stated the agreement outlines and makes clearer the responsibilities of each committee. She stated one committee will oversee all the sub-committees.

In response to a question asked by Hudkins, Diane Staab, Deputy County Attorney, stated the agreement would automatically renew unless someone terminates it. Notice of termination must be given one year after the anniversary date.

Hudkins stated he like would to see the opportunity for review.

Staab stated the agreement is with the City to have a joint agency. She noted that it is something which can be reviewed every year and could be specified in the agreement. Staab stated other interlocals with City are automatically renewed.

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, stated there was nothing preventing the County Board from establishing a policy regarding automatic renewal.

Campbell gave a brief history explaining that the agreement was brought about when a decision was made regarding renewing a contract with Systems and Computer Technology (SCT) or establishment of a County/City agency. She stated that contract required a 30 day termination notice. Campbell said the current interlocal was drafted to give sufficient notice because it requires a great length of time to establish such an agency.

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval. On call Heier, Workman, Hudkins, Campbell and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Grant contracts with the following to be paid quarterly for the term of the contract which begins July 1, 1999 and ends June 30, 2000:

- * **Lincoln Action Program, Inc. for food, clothing and emergency assistance to residents of Lancaster County. The County will pay \$33,306. (19991923)**
- * **Lincoln Action Program, Inc. for Education Outreach, Homeless Prevention, COLT, Emergency Services and Family Preservation. The County will pay \$111,989 (19991922)**
- * **YWCA for the Parents Center and the Survival Skills Program. The County will pay \$51,254. (19991921)**
- * **League of Human Dignity Inc. for administration, the Center for Independent Living and barrier removal. The County will pay \$64,750. (19991920)**

Workman requested that the contract with the YWCA be held because of the possibility of a third party participant who may receive funding from the contract.

MOTION: Workman moved and Heier seconded to hold the grant contract with YWCA for further review at a Thursday staff meeting.

In response to Workman's concerns, Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, gave a brief background regarding the contract and stated funding remains with the YWCA.

Workman withdrew his previous motion and the seconder agreed.

Workman stated he would like the Board to make a separate motion on the contract with the YWCA because of a relative whose job is contingent upon the grant.

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval of grant contracts with Lincoln Action Program, Inc. (2 contracts) and League of Human Dignity Inc. On call Heier, workman, Steinman, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval of a grant contract with YWCA. On call Steinman, Hudkins, Heier and Campbell voted aye. Workman abstained. Motion carried.

C. Grant contracts with the following which are to be paid quarterly by the County for the term of the contract beginning September 1, 1999 and ending August 31, 2000:

- * **Centerpointe, Inc. to provide a Day Reporting Center, in the amount \$72,720. (19991946)**
- * **Centerpointe, Inc. for 100 hours of mental health substance abuse oversight by Dr Charles Thiessen, in the amount of \$7,500. (19991945)**
- * **Leadership Lincoln, Inc. to provide administration of a Youth Leadership Lincoln Institute, in the amount of \$10,000. (19991944)**

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval.

Hudkins inquired about the name of the contract with Leadership Lincoln, Inc. including Lancaster County because the County does help with funding.

Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, responded Deane Finnegan calls the Youth Leadership Lincoln Institute the Youth and Action Center of Lincoln-Lancaster County.

Hudkins suggested an article be published in the Cooperative Extension newspaper to inform rural residents of the services offered.

ROLL CALL: Heier, Workman, Steinman, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

D. A grant contract with Centerpointe, Inc. for general operations and specific projects for Adult Residential and Youth Residential, beginning July 1, 1999 and ending June 30, 2000. The County will pay \$310,546. (19991943)

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded approval. On call Steinman, Hudkins, Heier, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

- E. A contract with Sheryl Schrepf for consultation regarding management of the Families First and Foremost Project, beginning September 7, 1999 and ending September 6, 2000. Payment is to be made monthly and total compensation is \$60,000. (19991939)**

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval. On call Workman, Campbell, Hudkins, Steinman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

- F. A contract with the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads to allow County roads to act as detours during improvements to Highway N-79 from and including its intersection with US Highway 34. The County will improve the intersection and site distance at 14th Street and Raymond Road and the State will pay 50 percent, up to \$125,000. (19991931)**

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded approval. On call Hudkins, Workman, Heier, Campbell and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

- G. A contract with Schemmer Associates for surveying and professional engineering services for the design and preparation of plans for regrading of West Denton Road from Southwest 140th Street to the Village of Denton. Surveying is to begin October 4, 1999 and to be completed by October 29, 1999 with all reports to be presented to the County by December 17, 1999. The County will pay \$24,000. (19991956)**

MOTION: Heier moved and Steinman seconded approval. On Campbell, Heier, Steinman, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

- H. A resolution striking uncollectible personal property tax from the tax list. (19991874)**

MOTION: Workman moved and Heier seconded approval of Resolution 99-1874. On call Hudkins, Campbell, Steinman, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- I. A resolution directing the County Treasurer to issue tax sale certificates to the County on all parcels of real estate where there are delinquent taxes and also directing the County Attorney's Office to begin tax foreclosure proceedings. (19991875)**

MOTION: Workman moved and Heier seconded approval of Resolution 99-1875. On call Campbell, Hudkins, Heier, Workman and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

- J. Recommendation from the Purchasing Agent and Lancaster Manor to award a request for proposal to Mobile Dental Services for dental and related services to Lancaster Manor residents. This will be a three year agreement, if approved, with one option for renewal of an additional three year period. All compensation to the provider will be billed and reimbursed at the Medicaid rate. (19991957)**

MOTION: Workman moved and Hudkins seconded approval. On call Heier, Campbell, Steinman, Hudkins and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- K Recommendation from the Lancaster County Personnel Policy Board to revise the Family and Medical Leave Act Personnel Policy Bulletin. (19991961)**

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval. On call Steinman, Workman, Heier, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

- L. Appointment of Kathleen A Sellman as the Director of the Lincoln-Lancaster Planning Department.**

MOTION: Steinman moved and Heier seconded approval. On call Workman, Hudkins, Campbell, Steinman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

- 6) **CONSENT ITEMS:** These are items of business that are routine and which are expected to be adopted without dissent. Any individual item may be removed for special discussion and consideration by a Commissioner or by any member of the public without prior notice. Unless there is an exception, these items will be approved as one with a single vote of the Board of Commissioners. These items are approval of:

- A. Setting of a public hearing for Wednesday, November 3, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Room 112, on the first floor of the County-City Building regarding Lancaster County's proposed One and Six Year Road and Bridge Improvement Program for fiscal year 2000.**
- B. Request from Carolee Whiting, an employee with the County Assessor's Office, to voluntarily participate in the Lancaster County Retirement Plan. (19991960)**
- C. Maintenance agreements with the following:**
- * JJE, Inc. for a Canon Micro Scanner and two printers for the Register of Deeds Office, beginning September 15, 1999 and ending September 14, 2000. Payments will be made quarterly, in the amount of \$286.25, for an annual total of \$1,145. (19991942)**

- * **JJE, Inc. for a Canon microfilm reader/printer for County Court, in the total amount of \$545, beginning September 29, 1999 and ending September 28, 2000. (19991941)**
 - * **Hewlett Packard for one large format printer/plotter for the County Engineer, in the amount of \$113 per month for a total annual cost of \$1,356. (19991940)**
- D. A contract with Great Plains Appraisal, Inc. to review the appraisals for Project C55-L-403(1), Southwest 40th Street, Van Dorn Street to "A" Street, beginning upon execution of the contract with the work to be completed 30 days thereafter. The County will pay \$4,725. (19991954)**
- E. A contract with the League of Women Voters to provide voter registration sites and workers, beginning September 1, 1999 and ending October 31, 2000. The County will pay \$3.25 per hour, not to exceed a total amount of \$800. (19991951)**
- F. A right-of-way contract with Elmer G and Helen Hietbrink at Firth Road and Highway 43, in the amount of \$120.26. (19991938)**
- G. Rights-of-Entry agreements with the following:**
- * **Craig G and Jeralyn G Prange at 10845 South 56th Street. This is a voluntary donation. (19991932)**
 - * **John W and Joan W Lofgren at 10600 South 56th Street. This is a voluntary donation. (19991933)**
 - * **Dean H and Judith J Ubben on South 56th Street. This is a voluntary donation. (19991955)**

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the Consent Items. On call Hudkins, Steinman, Workman, Heier and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

7) **EXECUTIVE SESSION (PENDING LITIGATION):**

Present were Kathy Campbell, Bernie Heier, Larry Hudkins, Linda Steinman and Bob Workman sitting as the Board of Commissioners. Also present was Diane Staab, Deputy County Attorney; Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer and Mike Thurber, Corrections Director.

MOTION: At 2:38 p.m. Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded to enter into Executive Session regarding pending litigation. On call Steinman, Workman, Campbell, Hudkins and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

MOTION: At 3:16 p.m. Hudkins moved and Workman seconded to exit Executive Session. On call Heier, Workman, Hudkins, Campbell and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

8) **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting. On call Workman, Campbell, Hudkins, Steinman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
County clerk